

Persecution the norm for many Christians, panelists note

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Persecution the norm for many Christians, panelists note

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

BIRMINGHAM, England (ABP)-Latvian Baptists often encounter “difficulties” from their countrymen working to halt their efforts to spread the gospel, said Yanis Smits, bishop of the Latvian Baptist Union

Pastor urges Christians to ‘get in the game’

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Pastor urges Christians to 'get in the game'

By Ferrell Foster

Texas Baptist Communications

FORT WORTH-Life easily becomes a spectator sport, but “that is not the way God intended for life to be lived,” said Lance Watson, pastor of St. Paul's Baptist Church in Richmond, Va.

God wants his people to share blessing with everyone

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God wants his people to share blessing with everyone

By Ferrell Foster

Texas Baptist Communications

FORT WORTH-Christians have a blessing to share, and the people who need it are “right in our midst,” said Gary Patterson, pastor of Berean Bible Baptist Fellowship in San Antonio.

Around the State

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Willis Whitfield, a 1952 graduate of Hardin-Simmons University, watches a tape of himself entering a prototype clean room at Sandia Labs. Whitfield developed the method to move filtered air through a room, removing particles with contaminate micro-electronic components. Prior to his inspiration, so-called clean rooms relied on gowns, masks and janitorial services to limit contamination. In an effort to make sure Whitfield's contributions are not forgotten, Sandia Labs has commissioned a statue of him to be the prominent feature of the new Microsystems and Engineering Science Applications Laboratory courtyard. Whitfield is married to the former Belva Wiggins, also a Hardin-Simmons University graduate. They are active in Hoffmantown Church in Albuquerque, N.M.

Around the State

◆ Howard Payne University presented service pins to several staff and faculty members to mark their terms of service. **Robert Mangrum**, professor of history and political science, was honored for his 25 years with the school. **Mary Dunham**, head of technical services and assistant professor of library science, was recognized for 20 years of employment. Recognized for 15 years of service were **Brenda Brittain**, executive secretary to the vice president for academic affairs; **Gerry Clarkson**, associate professor of physical science; **Gary Gramling**, dean of the School of Christian Studies; **Peter James**, professor of modern languages; and **Patsy Weeks**, outreach director of the Heart of Texas Literature Center. Marking 10 years were **Wendy Grooms**, associate professor of mathematics; **John Nickols**, assistant professor of history and political science; **Cathy Sneed**, assistant professor of social work; and **Rob Tucker**, associate professor of music and band director.

◆ **Michael Goodman** has been named Baptist Student Ministry director at East Texas Baptist University. He had been serving as university student minister and city strategist for the International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention in Edinburgh, Scotland.

◆ **Margie Williamson**, head women's basketball coach at the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor for the last five years, has resigned. She plans to pursue a doctorate in sports administration.

Bartimaeus church looking for a lift, hoping for help

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Bartimaeus church looking for a lift, hoping for help

By George Henson

Staff Writer

DALLAS—Twenty-two years ago, Baptist Standard readers helped members of Bartimaeus Baptist Church attend worship services. Pastor David Whitmore's congregation is counting on generosity to help the helpless once again.

Texas Baptist author feels dead certain of prayer's power

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Texas Baptist author feels dead certain of prayer's power

By **Ken Camp**

Managing Editor

Don Piper feels dead certain prayer works. In fact, he believes it brought him back from the dead.

Book Reviews

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Book Reviews

Why the Rest Hates the West by Meic Piese (InterVarsity Press)

Why the Rest Hates the West fills two important needs. First, it provides a helpful historical analysis of how Western culture (primarily North America and Western Europe) has evolved in ways that put it at odds with non-Westerners around the world. Second, it provides a critique of Western culture that avoids the extremes of both political and patriotic correctness. In fact, more than anything else, this balanced and well-articulated approach by Meic Pearse makes the book worth your time.

What will make this book especially helpful for the average Baptist is seeing how much of anti-Western resentment is grounded in assumptions that we (North Americans and Western Europeans) have rejected traditional morality and yet still assume a natural superiority over nations and cultures who aren't as "civilized" as we see ourselves. Understanding that point might soften the hearts of those of us who also place a high value on personal and societal morality yet still find it easy to harbor anger and resentment toward nations and cultures that reject America, sometimes violently.



What are you reading that other Texas Baptists would find helpful? Send suggestions and reviews to books@baptiststandard.com.

Shoes for Orphan Souls launches annual national drive

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Shoes for Orphan Souls launches annual national drive

By Felicia Fuller

Buckner Baptist Benevolences

With its expanded global territory and record volunteer participation, Buckner Orphan Care International is launching its seventh year of giving new shoes to children worldwide through its annual Shoes for Orphan Souls national campaign.

Buckner marks 10 years of international orphan ministry

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Buckner marks 10 years of international orphan ministry

By Scott Collins

Buckner Baptist Benevolences

Some say we live in a world without borders—that technology has made the planet a global village where travel and communications are instant.

Africa the new center of Christianity

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An
African
group
sings at
the
Baptist
World
Centenary
Congress.
(Photos
by Ferrell
Foster)

Africa the new center of Christianity

By Tony Cartledge

North Carolina Biblical Recorder

BIRMINGHAM, England (ABP)-The center of Christianity has moved to Africa, and Baptists can be catalysts for changing the continent, Frank Adams told delegates to the Baptist World Centenary Congress.

British Baptists encouraged by strong showing in Birmingham

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By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

BIRMINGHAM, England (ABP)-For one week, the halls of Birmingham's International Convention Center were filled with bustle and conversation of Baptists from around the world. But for British Baptists, the clamor sends one clear message: "You are not alone in a time of pain and uncertainty."

'We belong to each other because we belong to Christ'

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'We belong to each other because we belong to Christ'

By Marv Knox

Editor

BIRMINGHAM, England—Margun Waren of Norway grew up in a country with a strong, state-sponsored Lutheran church. “As Baptists, we are a minority,” she said, reporting that only about 5,000 Baptists live in Norway. “It was very great for me when I first found out as a teenager that the Baptists were so many more than the small area where I grew up.”